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C O N F I D E N T I A L ZAGREB 001364

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR (BENTON)  
DEFENSE FOR OSD/DASD-EURASIA (RICARDEL)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/13/2008  
TAGS: [MARR](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [HR](#) [IO](#)  
SUBJECT: CROATIAN CABINET COMMITS TO DEPLOY TROOPS IN IRAQ,  
SEEKS FURTHER INFORMATION

REF: ZAGREB 1266

CLASSIFIED BY: POLOFF A.F.GODFREY FOR REASONS 1.5 (B,D)

[1](#)1. (C) ON JUNE 12, THE CROATIAN CABINET PASSED A "DETERMINATION" TO DEPLOY AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF MILITARY PERSONNEL TO IRAQ TO PARTICIPATE IN MULTINATIONAL PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS. THIS "DETERMINATION" (FULL TEXT BELOW) CONSTITUTES THE SOLID POLITICAL COMMITMENT WE TOLD THE CROATIANS WE NEEDED BEFORE THE USG WOULD AUTHORIZE PRELIMINARY MILITARY-TO-MILITARY DISCUSSIONS ON DETAILS OF A POSSIBLE DEPLOYMENT (REF). AT THESE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS, THE GOC WOULD LEARN SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT DEPLOYMENT AND COSTS AND U.S. PLANNERS WOULD SEEK TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE CROATIAN OFFER WOULD ADD VALUE TO THE COALITION. UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THESE MILITARY-TO-MILITARY TALKS, THE GOC MUST PASS A MORE FORMAL "DECISION" WHICH MUST BE APPROVED BY THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT, BEFORE CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT DEPLOYMENT COULD BE INITIATED.

[1](#)2. (U) BEGIN TEXT OF JUNE 12 GOC "DETERMINATION" (NOTE INTERNAL NUMBERING):

- 1. BASED ON THE INTEREST AND READINESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA TO CONTRIBUTE TO AND ASSIST THE POSTWAR STABILIZATION OF IRAQ, WHICH IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1483 (2003), THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA AFFIRMS ITS READINESS TO CONTRIBUTE MEMBERS OF ITS ARMED FORCES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION FORCES IN PEACE AND ORDER KEEPING OPERATIONS, AIMED AT CREATING CONDITIONS FOR NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION, THE DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ.

- 2. WITH A VIEW TO IMPLEMENTING POINT 1 OF THIS DETERMINATION, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS INSTRUCTED TO DEFINE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, THE COMPOSITION, PROFILE AND NUMBER OF MILITARY PERSONNEL THAT WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION FORCES IN IRAQ.

END TEXT.  
ROSSIN

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